EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Mr. Bradley S. Bowling on 09/047/2008.

The application, particularly claim 1, has been amended as follows:

1.   **(currently amended):** A system for overflow and saturation processing,

comprising:

an adder, operatively connected to receive first and second operands, and

connected to add the operands to produce a result of the added operands;

an accumulator, operatively connected to store at least a portion of the result of

the added operands or at least a portion of a selected one of predetermined constants

based on control signals;

guard bits, operatively connected to store the remaining portion of the result of the

added operands or the remaining portion of the selected one of predetermined constants

based on the control signals;

overflow logic operatively connected to the accumulator and to the guard bits so

as to indicate overflow of the accumulator;

saturation logic, operatively connected to the adder, to the guard bits, and

connected to provide the control signals based on at least a portion of the result of the

added operands and at least a portion of the guard bits; and

wherein the saturation logic comprises a plurality of AND logic gates and a

plurality of inverting logic gates, the pluralities of AND gates and the plurality of

inverting logic gates configured to compare most significant bits of the guard bits and

most significant bits of the result of the added operands, and further configured to

generate the control signals in accordance with the comparison.

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2.   Claims 1 and 3-5 are allowed.

3.   Claims 2 and 6-7 are cancelled.

4.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of records fails to disclose or render an obviousness of a system for

overflow and saturation processing comprising: an adder; an accumulator; guard bits; an

overflow logic; a saturation logic; and wherein the saturation logic comprises a plurality

of AND logic gates and a plurality of inverting logic gates, the pluralities of AND gates

and the plurality of inverting logic gates configured to means for comparing most

significant bits of the guard bits and most significant bits of the result of the added

operands, and further configured to generate the control signals in accordance with the

comparison along with other specific functions/limitations as cited in the independent

claim 1.

The closest found prior art is Ishida et al. (U.S. 4,945,507). Ishida et al. also disclose a system for overflow and saturation processing comprising: an adder; an accumulator; guard bits; an overflow logic; and a saturation logic. However, Ishida et al. explicitly fail to disclose the saturation logic comprises a plurality of AND logic gates and a plurality of inverting logic gates, the pluralities of AND gates and the plurality of inverting logic gates configured to means for comparing most significant bits of the guard bits and most significant bits of the result of the added operands, and further configured to generate the control signals in accordance with the comparison as cited above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAT C. DO whose telephone number is (571)272-3721. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri 7:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lewis Bullock can be reached on (571) 272-3759. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

                                                            /Chat C. Do/
                                                            Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2193
September 4, 2008